## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 5. Illustrates different alleles of SSL7 ~~bind IgA~~. **A.** Amino sequence alignment of known alleles of <u>mature</u> SET1, <u>including SSL7_GL10 (SEQ ID NO:6), SSL7_GL1 (SEQ ID NO:7), SSL7_MW2 (SEQ ID NO:14), SSL7_NCTC8325 (SEQ ID NO:15), SSL7_Mu50 (SEQ ID NO:16), SSL7_N315 (SEQ ID NO:17), SSL7-NCTC6571 (SEQ ID NO:18)</u>. Two local clinical isolates (GL1 and GL10) are included in the alignment. Identity (*), strong similarity (:), and weak similarity (.), at each amino acid position is indicated. **B.** Proteins eluted from immobilized alleles (GL1 and GL10) that differ in 30/201 amino acids (underlined in A) run on SDS PAGE under reducing conditions. Both alleles bound IgA and C5 from two human sera. **A.**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

A SET1 protein of the invention may be exemplified by the following amino acid sequence which is provided on GenBank:

SET1 gi|6176432|gb|AAF05587.1|AF188835_1 [Staphylococcus aureus subsp. NCTC~~83256~~<u>571</u>] exotoxin 1 (set1) gene, set1-A allele, complete cds

MKLKTLAKATLALGLLTTGVITSEGQAVQAAEKQERVQHLHDIRDLHRYY
SSESFEYSNVSGKVENYNGSNVVRFNPKDQNHQLFLLGKDKEQYKEGLQG
QNVFVVQELIDPNGRLSTVGGVTKKNNKTSETNTPLFVNKVNGEDLDASI
DSFLIQKEEISLKELDFKIRQQLVNNYGLYKGTSKYGKIIINLKDENKVE
IDLGDKLQFERMGDVLNSKDIRGISVTINQI [SEQ ID NO:1].